

Board of Firefighting Personnel Standards and Education Minutes

**WAYNE TWP. FIRE DEPARTMENT
700 N. HIGH SCHOOL ROAD
INDIANAPOLIS, IN
FEBRUARY 23, 2004
10:10 a.m.**

A. Pursuant to IC 22-12-3-6, the regular scheduled meeting of the Board of Firefighting Personnel Standards & Education convened at 10:10 a.m. with Chairperson Paul Covington presiding:

a. The following Board Members were present:

Bernice Clark, arr 10:10 a.m.
Paul Covington
Patrick Donoghue
Charles (Don) Hall
Thomas Hanify
Tom Loraine
Jerry Nulliner
Patrick Ralston

b. The following Board Members were absent:

M. Tracy Boatwright
Jack Kerney
Darrick Scott

c. Also Present

Harold McCard, New Haven Twp. F.D.
John Shafer, Greencastle F.D.
Robert Kasting, New Waverly F.D.
Maynard Masters, Emergency Books
Jeffrey Hamilton, Walkerton F.D.
Ivan Nevil, Administrator Fire Academy
Mara Snyder, Counsel
James Schneider, PSTI TO
Randy Wood, PSTI TO
Marilyn Burgess, Program Coordinator

B. Roll Call

Roll Call was taken with a quorum of eight

C. Minutes December, 2003; Statistical Report November, December, 2003 and January 2004

Tom Loraine made a motion to accept the December 2003 Minutes and November, December 2003 and January 2004 statistical report as printed and distributed. Director Ralston seconded the motion. Motion carried.

D. Variances, Hearings and Appeals

a. **Matthew Bussard, a member of the Beech Grove F.D.** requested a variance to 655 IAC 1-2.1-19 Instructor I and 655 IAC 1-2.1-20 Instructor II/III based upon having completed a 140 hour course of instruction in March of 1997 while he was in the Marine Corp.

Director Ralston made a motion to grant the variances on staff recommendation with the condition that if he ever desires IFSAC accreditation he must take the Indiana written and practical. Tom Loraine seconded the motion. Motion carried

Tom Loraine made a motion to deny the request for variance upon staff recommendation. Don Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried.

b. **Paul Hammer, a member of the Wabash Twp. F.D. in Tippecanoe Co. and a professor of Horticulture at Purdue University,** requested a variance to 655 IAC 1-2.1-19 Instructor I and 655 IAC 1-2.1-20 Instructor II/III based upon having received a Bachelor of Science degree from North Carolina State University at Raleigh, NC and a Master of Science from Cornell University. He has also completed his Doctor of Philosophy from Cornell University.

Tom Loraine made a motion to grant the variances on staff recommendation with the condition that if he ever desires IFSAC accreditation he must take the Indiana written and practicals. Pat Donoghue seconded the motion. Motion carried.

c. **Vince Oakley, a member of the Evansville F.D.** requested a variance to 655 IAC 1-2.1-19 Instructor I and 655 IAC 1-2.1-20 Instructor II/III based upon having completed and receiving a State of Indiana Teachers License.

Tom Loraine made a motion to grant the variances on staff recommendation with the condition that if he ever desires IFSAC accreditation he must take the Indiana written and practical tests. Don Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried.

d. **Steven Weiger, a member of the South Bend F.D. and an Investigator for the department** is requesting a variance to 655 IAC 1-2.1-15 Investigator I based upon documentation presented and on the job experience to meet the requirements for certification in Indiana.

Direction Ralston made a motion to grant the variance on staff recommendation with the condition that if he ever desires IFSAC accreditation he must take the Indiana written and practical tests. Tom Loraine seconded the motion. Motion carried.

e. **Tim Rice, a member of the Tell City F.D. and a firefighter with the Worthington, KY FD as a career member** is requesting a variance to 655 IAC 1-2.1-4 FF I and 655 IAC 1.2.1-5 FF II and 655 IAC 1-2.1-19 Instructor I based upon having completed these courses in Kentucky and receiving certification.

Tom Loraine made a motion to grant the variances on staff recommendation. Jerry Nulliner seconded the motion. Paul Covington stated that he has been in contact with Kentucky and they are very concerned about Indiana granting reciprocity to Kentucky firefighters without the firefighter having an IFSAC seal. After some discussion Tom Loraine withdrew his motion and Jerry Nulliner withdrew his second to approve the variance.

Tom Loraine made a motion to table the request for variance until Tim Rice has had a chance to provide us with more information regarding his KY certification and his competency level training. Director Ralston seconded the motion. Motion carried.

f. **Eric Brown, a member of the White River Twp. F.D.** requested a variance to 655 IAC 1-2.1-10 FO III based upon classes taken and job experience. In the attachments included, he has included all National Fire Academy Classes and EMI classes he has taken in Indiana as well as on the campus at Emmitsburg, Maryland. He has also included a transcript from Hartford University in St. Paul, Minnesota from which he has attained an Associate Degree in Fire Science.

Tom Loraine made a motion to grant the variance. Jerry Nulliner seconded the motion. Motion carried.

g. **John Evans, a member of the Goshen Fire Department** requested a variance to 655 IAC 1-2.1-19 Instructor I and 655 IAC 1-2.1-20 Instructor II/III based upon having completed his Bachelor Degree in Education from Indiana University South Bend.

Tom Loraine made a motion to grant the variances on staff recommendation with the condition that if he ever desires IFSAC accreditation he must take the Indiana written and practical test. Pat Donoghue seconded the motion. Motion carried.

h. **Thomas Laughlin, a member of the Shelbyville F.D.** requested a variance to 655 IAC 1-2.1-19 Instructor I based upon having completed and receiving a certification as a Primary Instructor from the Indiana EMS Commission. He has been a member of the fire service since 1976 and has obtained a First Class firefighter certification.

Jerry Nulliner made a motion to deny the variance, since his Primary Instructor certification expired in 1998. Tom Loraine seconded the motion. Motion carried.

i. **Eric Shaughnessy, a member of the Sellersburg F.D.** requested a variance to 655 IAC 1-2.1-10 FO III based upon having attended Jefferson Technical College in Kentucky.

Tom Loraine made a motion to deny the variance on the transcript presented. Jerry Nulliner seconded the motion. Motion carried.

E. Report by Patrick Ralston, Executive Director, SEMA/DFBS/PSTI

Director Ralston stated that February 27, 2004 will be his last day as Executive Director of SEMA/DFBS/PSTI. He will be taking a position in the private sector as Vice-President of Economic Development and Consumer Affairs at First Financial Bank. Director Ralston has been with the State of Indiana 34 years. He thanked all of the Board Members and Mara Snyder, Ivan Nevil and Marilyn Burgess and said it has been a pleasure working with everyone.

Tom Loraine made a special motion "Board of Firefighting Personnel Standards and Education expresses special thanks to Executive Director Patrick Ralston for his support of this Board's on-going activities for the benefit of Indiana Firefighters". Jerry Nulliner seconded the motion. Motion carried.

F. State Fire Marshal Report M. Tracy Boatwright

Marshal Boatwright was unavailable for the Board Meeting. Mara announced there are two legislative reports. First Senator Simpson's bill (SB 326) on indoor pyrotechnics has been through the Senate and is awaiting action in the House. It is up for the second reading today. House Bill #1072 deals with people who use explosives for aggregate mining, road construction etc. It has gotten through the Senate and House and is up for a second reading. If it goes through the Fire Marshal's office will certify explosive blasters.

G. Public Safety Training Institute Report Ivan Nevil

Ivan reported that Jim Schneider and Randy Wood are very busy putting on training classes. Staff is also busy working on the rules.

NFPA came out with a recommended guideline #610 for Motor Sports, so Ivan has recruited a task force to set up guidelines for this certification. They have the awareness level done and operations are almost finished. Ivan asked the Boards permission to run some Pilot Programs for NFPA #610 Motor Sports, because the task force has a meeting on March 2, but will not have another one until the racing season is over.

Tom Loraine made a motion to give PSTI permission to run some Pilot Programs on NFPA #610, Motor Sports. Director Ralston seconded the motion. Motion carried.

1006 and 1670 task force has the awareness program done and the operations program almost finished. It should be finished for the rule revision in May.

Randy Wood and Ivan will be going to the IFSAC conference in April.

6 Fire Grant Workshops have been completed. Another one will be held in Auburn this afternoon and in Rochester at 7 p.m. this evening. PSTI has scheduled a meeting on March 2 in Oolitic. Several individuals want to schedule meetings for their department. Ivan told them to set it up and just give him the date when it is confirmed. Opening for the Grant Program is March 1 and the closing is April 2.

PSTI has a booth for FDIC April 26 - May 4, 2004. Displays are open April 29, 30 and May 1.

Fire Chief Orientation last Saturday ran extremely late. Ivan suggested that these meetings could possibly start sooner. Tom Loraine asked if it is possible to expand this program and to put this information on DVD for distribution to departments not able to attend the meeting

Indiana Weekend is set for July 17, 18, 19, 2004. Jim Schneider is handling details. Indiana will be sharing the weekend with Mississippi again.

Randy and Ivan will be going to Fire Grant evaluations the first week in May. 216 departments in Indiana have been awarded Fire Grants. Approximately \$20 million has come into Indiana from the 2003 grants.

H. **Administrative Proceedings** - None at this time

I. **Old Business**

a. **IFSAC** - Paul Covington - Paul is also attending the IFSAC Conference in April. Paul has been invited to attend a site visit in Delaware in March. IFSAC April Conference will be held in Indianapolis in 2005 at the Adams Mark. Ivan announced that an Administrative Review was done on Driver Operator Aerial and Indiana is now IFSAC accredited on this review

b. **House Bill #1106** - Ivan Nevil - Mandatory Training is ready to go. A problem has arisen on the video for the Instruction Course on vehicle emergency response driving safety. Other avenues of producing the video are being researched.

c. **Certification Task Force** - Tom Loraine - Tom said that the task force is meeting regularly. There have been a number of tele-conferences. A survey was passed out and Tom stated that this survey is being handed out to various organizations and individuals throughout the state. Tom is hoping for results of the survey by late May. The results of the survey will be distributed both electronically and through all the various fire service organizations, discussing the issues of upgrading our mandatory standards throughout the state. The two co-chairs of the task force are Randy Brown, Angola and John Buchman, German Twp. As a point of interest Tom stated that the state of California passed legislation that all firefighters will be certified to the level of FF II. There are some time

frames for the accomplishment. Ivan stated that last week there was a Senate concurrent resolution introduced resolution passed by Senator Meeks for a study committee over the summer to review the fire certification training for the state of Indiana

J. New Business

a. Meeting in Kentucky regarding IFSAC state certification - Paul Covington - Paul had a meeting with Kentucky's Woody Wills, Wayne Mullinex and the Kentucky Commission on Firefighters. Paul stated that Kentucky was not aware that we are a competency-based certification and that we require cognitive and competency testing for state certification and IFSAC accreditation. Kentucky has asked that we not grant reciprocity to any Kentucky firefighters that do not have IFSAC accredited certificates. Only Kentucky IFSAC certificates have proof of competency. Their state certificates do not.

b. **Election of Officers** - Tom Loraine made a motion to re-nominate Paul Covington as Chairman. Jerry Nulliner seconded the motion. Chairman Paul Covington asked 3 times for nominations from the floor. No nominations were forthcoming. Tom Loraine made a motion nominations be closed. Tom Hanify seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Tom Loraine made a motion to re-nominate Patrick Donoghue for Vice-Chairman. Jerry Nulliner seconded the motion. Chairman Paul Covington called 3 times for nominations from the floor. No nominations were forthcoming. Tom Hanify made a motion nominations be closed. Jerry Nulliner seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Tom Loraine made a motion to re-nominate Darrick Scott as Secretary. Jerry Nulliner seconded the motion. Chairman Paul Covington called 3 times for nominations from the floor. No nominations were forth coming. Tom Hanify made a motion to close the nominations. Jerry Nulliner seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Tom Loraine made a motion to accept the nomination of Paul Covington, Chairman - Patrick Donoghue, Vice-Chairman - Darrick Scott, Secretary. Don Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried.

c. **Brian Mosley contesting test #03-0328** - Brian did not send any information to Ivan in writing, so the Board can not take any action.

d. **Board consideration of LSA document #03-0128** - Mara Snyder passed a memo out to Board Members detailing changes made in response to issues recused by Jim Schmidt in the AG'S office. Mara asked the Board to look at Driver Operator Aerial 655 IAC 1-2.1-6-1 655 IAC 1-2.1-6-2 Wildland Fire Apparatus and 655 IAC 1-2.1-6.4. An addition of (d) The candidate shall have been certified as a Driver Operator Pumper was added to each of these certifications. Ivan said this does not follow NFPA guidelines. There was some discussion on this. Tom Loraine made a motion to delete this addition from each of the certifications to conform to NFPA standard. Don Hall seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Tom Hanify made a motion to adopt LSA document #03-168 with amendments contained in staff memo dated February 23, 2004 and with the approved amendments to 655 IAC 1-2.1-6.1, 6.2 and 6.4. Tom Loraine seconded the motion. Motion carried.

K. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the chairperson declared the meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.